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selection information stored at a plurality of said acquisition times, to a notification destination at a predetermined transmission timing;

wherein said selection information includes additional information showing whether said selected broadcast programs are recorded or not.

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5. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said additional information includes information showing types and audience modes of said selected broadcast programs.

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9. (Amended) A broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method of acquiring selection history information of broadcast programs selected out of broadcast programs of a plurality of channels, comprising the steps of:

storing selection information of said selected broadcast programs at predetermined acquisition times; and

transmitting said selection history information which is composed of a plurality of pieces of said selection information stored at a plurality of said acquisition times, to a notification destination at a predetermined transmission timing;

wherein said selection information includes additional information showing whether said selected broadcast programs are recorded or not.

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13. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method according to claim 9, wherein said additional information includes information showing types and audience modes of said selected broadcast programs.

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32. (Amended) A broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus for acquiring selection

history information of broadcast programs selected out of broadcast programs of a plurality of channels, comprising:

storage means for storing selection information of said selected broadcast programs at predetermined acquisition times; and

transmission means for transmitting said selection history information which is composed of a plurality of pieces of said selection information stored at a plurality of said acquisition times, to a notification destination at a

transmission timing assigned at random in accordance with an intrinsic random number.

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33. (Amended) A broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus for acquiring selection history information of broadcast programs selected out of broadcast programs of a plurality of channels, comprising:

storage means for storing selection information of said selected broadcast programs at predetermined acquisition times; and

transmission means for transmitting said selection history information which is composed of a plurality of pieces of said selection information stored at a plurality of said acquisition times, to a notification destination at an intrinsically-assigned predetermined transmission timing, wherein

said transmission means transmits said selection history information through a predetermined telephone line, and decides said predetermined transmission timing based on a telephone number assigned to said telephone line.

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36. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus according to claim 32, wherein

said selection information is composed of channel number information of said selected broadcast programs and time information showing the time when said broadcast programs are selected.

37. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus according to claim 32, wherein

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38. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus according to claim 32, wherein

when transmitting said selection history information to said notification destination through a predetermined line at said transmission timing, said broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus changes the setting of said predetermined acquisition times and/or the setting of said transmission timing based on a change command transmitted from said notification destination through said line.

40. (Amended) A broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method of acquiring selection history information of broadcast programs selected out of broadcast programs of a plurality of channels, comprising the steps of:

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transmitting said selection history information which is composed of a plurality of pieces of said selection information stored at a plurality of said acquisition times at a transmission timing assigned at random in accordance with an intrinsic random number.

41. (Amended) A broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method of acquiring selection history information of broadcast programs selected out of broadcast programs of a plurality of channels, comprising the steps of:

storing selection information of said selected broadcast programs at predetermined acquisition times; and

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transmitting said selection history information which is composed of a plurality of pieces of said selection information stored at a plurality of said acquisition times at an intrinsically-assigned predetermined transmission timing, wherein

said broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method transmits said selection history information through a predetermined telephone line, and decides said predetermined transmission timing based on a telephone number assigned to said telephone line.

43. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method according to claim 40, wherein

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said selection information is composed of channel number information of said selected broadcast programs and time information showing the times when said broadcast programs are selected.

44. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method according to claim 40, wherein

said selection history information includes an identification number intrinsically assigned to said broadcast-program selection history information acquisition apparatus.

45. (Amended) The broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method according to claim 40, wherein

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when transmitting said selection history information to said notification destination through a predetermined line at said transmission timing, said broadcast-program selection history information acquisition method changes the setting of said predetermined acquisition times and/or the setting of said transmission timing based on a change command transmitted from said notification destination through said line.

Please cancel claims 6, 14, 17-31, 34, 35, 39 and 42.

Insert new claims 46 and 47 as follows:

46. (New) Apparatus for use in acquiring broadcast program selection history information, the apparatus comprising:

a front end section for receiving a signal and providing therefrom a selected broadcast program;

a memory for storing selection information associated with the selected broadcast program; and

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a transmitter for transmitting a signal representative of audience rating data based on the stored selection information, the audience rating data comprising a header part and a data part, the data part comprising samples, each sample including an additional information field, a time field, and a channel number information field, and wherein the header part includes a subscriber number field, a date field, and a number of samples field, the value of the number of samples held indicating the number of samples in the data part, and wherein the additional information field includes information showing whether the selected broadcast program was recorded or not.

47. (New) Apparatus for use in acquiring broadcast-program selection history information, the apparatus comprising:

a front end section for receiving a signal and providing therefrom a selected broadcast program;

a memory for storing selection information associated with the selected broadcast program;

a random number generator; and

a transmitter for transmitting a signal representative of audience rating data based on the stored selection information, wherein the signal is transmitted as a function of a random number generated by the random number generator.